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Jeremy A. Mercer

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September 10, 2012

## VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

United States Environmental Protection Agency 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Mr. Peter J. Smith
United States Attorney for the Eastern
District of Pennsylvania
William J. Nealon Federal Building and
Courthouse
235 N. Washington Avenue, Suite 311
Scranton, PA 18503

Eric Holder Attorney General United States Department of Justice P. O. Box 683 Washington, DC 20044

Marcia Mulkey, Esq. Regional Counsel for Region 3 EPA Region 3 Regional Office 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

RE: Norma Fiorentino, et al. v. Cabot Oil and Gas Corporation, et al. Case No. 3:09-cv-02284-JEJ

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed please find a copy of subpoena duces tecum directed to the United States
Environmental Protection Agency in connection with the case of *Fiorentino, et al. v. Cabot*Oil & Gas Corporation, et al. Your compliance with the subpoena is required by October 12,
2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the location indicated on the subpoena. Should you have any
questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

Jeremy A. Mercer

JAM/tal Enclosure

cc: Sud Patel, Esq.

95737134.1

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Middle District of Pennsylvania

Middle District 6	or remsyrvama
Norma Fiorentino, et al.	<b>)</b> :
Plaintiff	ý
Ÿ,	) Civil Action No. 3:09-cv-02284-JEJ
Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation, et al.	)
	) (If the action is pending in another district, state where:
Defendant	<i>Y</i>
	ENTS, INFORMATION, OR OBJECTS F PREMISES IN A CIVIL ACTION
To: United States Environmental Protection Agency, 1650 19103-2029	Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA
Production: YOU ARE COMMANDED to product documents, electronically stored information, or objects, and material: See Addendum for description of requested material.	ce at the time, date, and place set forth below the following d permit their inspection, copying, testing, or sampling of the ials.
Place: Jeremy A. Mercer, Esq. c/o Sud Patel, Esq.	Date and Time:
No. 1 Mahantongo Street	
Pottsville, PA 17901	10/12/2012 10:00 am
may inspect, measure, survey, photograph, test, or sample the	Date and Time:
Ammunia de la companya del companya de la companya della companya	
The provisions of Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(c), relating to y 45 (d) and (e), relating to your duty to respond to this subpostatached.	your protection as a person subject to a subpoena, and Rule bena and the potential consequences of not doing so, are
Date: 10 Sep. 2012	
CLERK OF COURT	Ř.
	OR J
Signature of Clerk or Deputy Cle	erk Attorney's signature
The name, address, e-mail, and telephone number of the atto	orney representing (name of party) Cabot Oil & Gas Corp.;
GasSearch Drilling Services Corp.	, who issues or requests this subpoena, are:
Jeremy A. Mercer, Esq., FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI LLP, S 300, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania 15317. E-mail: jmercer@f	Southpointe Energy Complex, 370 Southpointe Blvd., Suite fulbright.com; Tel: (724) 416-0400.

Civil Action No. 3:09-cv-02284-JEJ

#### PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 45.)

	This subpoena for (name of individual and title, if any)	Cabot Oil & Gas Corp.; G	asSearch Drilling	Services Corp.			
vas rec	eived by me on (date)						
	I served the subpoena by delivering a copy to	the named person as follow	s: certified m	certified mail			
		on (date)	09/10/2012	; or			
	☐ I returned the subpoena unexecuted because:						
	Unless the subpoena was issued on behalf of the United States, or one of its officers or agents, I have alst tendered to the witness fees for one day's attendance, and the mileage allowed by law, in the amount of						
	\$ 0.00						
ly fee	s are \$ for travel and \$	0.00 for services	s, for a total of \$	0.00			
	I declare under penalty of perjury that this inform	nation is true.					
ate:	09/10/2012	Server's si	gnature				
	<u> </u>	Jeremy A. M		47.000			
		Printed nam					
		370 Southpointe Canonsburg,					
	and the control of th	Server's c	address	When the state of			

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

#### Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45 (c), (d), and (e) (Effective 12/1/07)

#### (c) Protecting a Person Subject to a Subpoena.

(1) Avoiding Undue Burden or Expense; Sanctions. A party or attorney responsible for issuing and serving a subpoena must take reasonable steps to avoid imposing undue burden or expense on a person subject to the subpoena. The issuing court must enforce this duty and impose an appropriate sanction — which may include lost earnings and reasonable attorney's fees — on a party or attorney who fails to comply.

#### (2) Command to Produce Materials or Permit Inspection.

- (A) Appearance Not Required. A person commanded to produce documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things, or to permit the inspection of premises, need not appear in person at the place of production or inspection unless also commanded to appear for a deposition, hearing, or trial.
- (B) Objections. A person commanded to produce documents or tangible things or to permit inspection may serve on the party or attorney designated in the subpoena a written objection to inspecting, copying, testing or sampling any or all of the materials or to inspecting the premises or to producing electronically stored information in the form or forms requested. The objection must be served before the earlier of the time specified for compliance or 14 days after the subpoena is served. If an objection is made, the following rules apply:
- (i) At any time, on notice to the commanded person, the serving party may move the issuing court for an order compelling production or inspection.
- (ii) These acts may be required only as directed in the order, and the order must protect a person who is neither a party nor a party's officer from significant expense resulting from compliance.

#### (3) Quashing or Modifying a Subpoena.

- (A) When Required. On timely motion, the issuing court must quash or modify a subpoena that:
  - (i) fails to allow a reasonable time to comply;
- (ii) requires a person who is neither a party nor a party's officer to travel more than 100 miles from where that person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person except that, subject to Rule 45(c)(3)(B)(iii), the person may be commanded to attend a trial by traveling from any such place within the state where the trial is held;
- (iii) requires disclosure of privileged or other protected matter, if no exception or waiver applies; or
  - (iv) subjects a person to undue burden.
- (B) When Permitted. To protect a person subject to or affected by a subpoena, the issuing court may, on motion, quash or modify the subpoena if it requires:
- (i) disclosing a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information;
- (ii) disclosing an unretained expert's opinion or information that does not describe specific occurrences in dispute and results from the expert's study that was not requested by a party; or
- (iii) a person who is neither a party nor a party's officer to incur substantial expense to travel more than 100 miles to attend trial.
- (C) Specifying Conditions as an Alternative. In the circumstances described in Rule 45(c)(3)(B), the court may, instead of quashing or modifying a subpoena, order appearance or production under specified conditions if the serving party:
- (i) shows a substantial need for the testimony or material that cannot be otherwise met without undue hardship; and
- (ii) ensures that the subpoenaed person will be reasonably compensated.

#### (d) Duties in Responding to a Subpoena.

- (1) Producing Documents or Electronically Stored Information. These procedures apply to producing documents or electronically stored information:
- (A) Documents. A person responding to a subpoena to produce documents must produce them as they are kept in the ordinary course of business or must organize and label them to correspond to the categories in the demand.
- **(B)** Form for Producing Electronically Stored Information Not Specified. If a subpoena does not specify a form for producing electronically stored information, the person responding must produce it in a form or forms in which it is ordinarily maintained or in a reasonably usable form or forms.
- **(C)** Electronically Stored Information Produced in Only One Form. The person responding need not produce the same electronically stored information in more than one form.
- (D) Inaccessible Electronically Stored Information. The person responding need not provide discovery of electronically stored information from sources that the person identifies as not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost. On motion to compel discovery or for a protective order, the person responding must show that the information is not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost. If that showing is made, the court may nonetheless order discovery from such sources if the requesting party shows good cause, considering the limitations of Rule 26(b)(2)(C). The court may specify conditions for the discovery.

#### (2) Claiming Privilege or Protection.

- (A) Information Withheld. A person withholding subpoenaed information under a claim that it is privileged or subject to protection as trial-preparation material must:
  - (i) expressly make the claim; and
- (ii) describe the nature of the withheld documents, communications, or tangible things in a manner that, without revealing information itself privileged or protected, will enable the parties to assess the claim.
- (B) Information Produced. If information produced in response to a subpoena is subject to a claim of privilege or of protection as trial-preparation material, the person making the claim may notify any party that received the information of the claim and the basis for it. After being notified, a party must promptly return, sequester, or destroy the specified information and any copies it has; must not use or disclose the information until the claim is resolved; must take reasonable steps to retrieve the information if the party disclosed it before being notified; and may promptly present the information to the court under seal for a determination of the claim. The person who produced the information must preserve the information until the claim is resolved.
- (e) Contempt. The issuing court may hold in contempt a person who, having been served, fails without adequate excuse to obey the subpoena. A nonparty's failure to obey must be excused if the subpoena purports to require the nonparty to attend or produce at a place outside the limits of Rule 45(c)(3)(A)(ii).

#### **ADDENDUM 1**

- 1. Any and all documents, information, or Electronically Stored Information (as defined by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure) that the EPA, its employees, consultants, agents, or affiliated persons provided to the homeowners and/or water well owners/users in Dimock, Pennsylvania who are associated with the following identification number: HW27 (or HW-27, HW 27, or 27). This subpoena includes, but is not limited to, test results, analyses, memoranda, explanations, correspondence, evaluations, charts, and/or summaries provided as part of the EPA's activities in Dimock, Pennsylvania related to, as a result of, and/or arising out of the January 19, 2012 Action Memorandum Request for Funding for a Removal Action at the Dimock Residential Groundwater Site, Intersection of PA Routes 29 & 2024 Dimock Township, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania (see attached at Exhibit A).
- 2. Any and all documents, information, or Electronically Stored Information (as defined by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure) that the EPA, its employees, consultants, agents, or affiliated persons provided to the following homeowner(s) and/or water well owner(s)/user(s) in Dimock, Pennsylvania, within the last year prior to the date of this Subpoena: James Costello and/or Julie Costello. This subpoena includes, but is not limited to, test results, analyses, memoranda, explanations, correspondence, evaluations, charts, and/or summaries provided as part of the EPA's activities in Dimock, Pennsylvania related to, as a result of, and/or arising out of the January 19, 2012 Action Memorandum Request for Funding for a Removal Action at the Dimock Residential Groundwater Site, Intersection of PA Routes 29 & 2024 Dimock Township, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania (see attached at Exhibit A).
- 3. You also are directed to complete the Certificate of Authenticity attached at Exhibit B.

### **EXHIBIT A**

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Subject:

Action Memorandum - Request for Funding for a Removal Action at the Dimock

JAN 19 2012

Residential Groundwater Site, Intersection of PA Routes 29 & 2024

Dimock Township, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania

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From: A Richard M. Fetzer, On-Scene Coordinator

Eastern Response Branch (3HS31)

To:

Dennis P. Carney, Associate Division Director

Hazardous Site Cleanup Division (3HS30)

#### I. PURPOSE

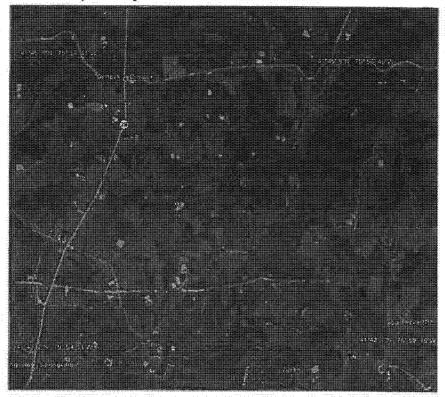
The purpose of this Action Memorandum is to request and document approval of an emergency removal action to prevent, limit, or mitigate the threats posed by the presence of hazardous substances at the Dimock Residential Groundwater Site (the "Site"), pursuant to Section 104(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(a) (CERCLA). The Site is located in Dimock Township, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. The OSC has initiated a removal site evaluation in accordance with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 C.F.R. Part 300. The OSC has determined, based on Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and Cabot Oil and Gas Corporation (Cabot) sampling information, consultation with an EPA toxicologist, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Record Of Activity (AROA), issued 12/28/11, and the recent EPA well survey effort, that a number of home wells in the Dimock area contain hazardous substances, some of which are not naturally found in the environment. Inorganic hazardous substances are present in four home wells at levels that present a public health concern. These four specific homes have been dependent upon donated water for drinking and/or household use and the reliability of the sources for donated water is at this point uncertain.

Historic drilling activities in the Dimock area may have used materials containing hazardous substances. Spills and other releases have been documented by PADEP from these drilling activities. There is reason to believe that a release of hazardous substances has occurred. The presence of hazardous substances in the four home wells constitutes a release or substantial threat of a release and the situation meets the criteria for conducting a removal action under Section 300.415 of the NCP. The OSC has determined that funds in the amount of \$100,000 are needed to mitigate the human health concern initially at four homes and therefore proposes the actions included in this Action Memorandum. This action includes provision of alternate water to four homes and home well sampling at approximately 61 homes within the Site area.

#### II. SITE CONDITIONS AND BACKGROUND

#### A. Background

- 1. Site Description The Site area is located in Dimock, a rural area of northeastern Pennsylvania in Susquehanna County. A map of the area is included below.
- 2. History Cabot began drilling for natural gas in the Dimock area in 2008. Methane contamination was detected in private wells thereafter in concentrations exceeding those previously found. PADEP had the lead in investigating the environmental complaints in Dimock. PADEP entered into a Consent Order and Agreement (CO&A) with Cabot which required permanent restoration or replacement of the



affected water supply. A public water line was initially considered. PADEP later modified the CO&A to require installation of "gas mitigation" systems for 19 homes served by 18 private wells in the Site area. Until the gas mitigation systems were installed, Cabot was to provide a temporary water source. Some well owners, within the scope of the PADEP CO&A, have gas mitigation systems installed, but others do not. While the gas mitigation systems were designed to remove methane, a potential exists that they may remove some hazardous substances as a by-product of their operation. Regardless, EPA does not know what, if any, hazardous substances these "gas mitigation" systems, originally designed to address methane, are removing. Therefore, EPA is including both preand post-treatment sampling in the scope of this action. Furthermore, there are

It had originally been reported that 19 homes were served by the 18 wells included within the scope of the CO&A but the door-to-door home well survey conducted to date by EPA has identified that there are currently 21 homes served by 20 wells on those same properties.

other homes served by private wells that were not covered by the scope of the PADEP CO&A, but are within this Site area.

#### III. Quantities/Types of Substances Present

- Arsenic\* Arsenic is a naturally occurring element widely distributed in the
  earth's crust. Arsenic may also be present at elevated concentrations in the
  groundwater due to the use and effects of drilling fluids. Arsenic is classified
  as a known human carcinogen. This classification is based on animal and
  human studies, which indicate an increased risk for developing cancers of the
  skin, lung, bladder, kidney, liver, and prostate from consuming arsenic
  containing water. Non-cancer health effects associated with ingestion of
  arsenic include circulatory problems and skin damage.
- 2. Barium Barium is a silvery-white metal that exists in nature only in ores containing mixtures of elements. It combines with other chemicals such as sulfur or carbon and oxygen to form barium compounds. Barium sulfate is sometimes used by doctors to perform medical tests and to take x-rays of the gastrointestinal tract. Ingesting drinking water containing levels of barium above the EPA drinking water guidelines for relatively short periods of time can cause gastrointestinal disturbances and muscle weakness. Ingesting high levels for a long time can damage the kidneys. Barium is known to be a common constituent of drilling fluids.
- 3. Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP)\* DEHP is a manufactured chemical that is commonly added to plastics to make them flexible. The phthalates are generally considered to be of slight to moderate toxicity. DEHP may be irritating to the eyes, skin, and mucous membranes. Mild gastric disturbances and diarrhea may occur following ingestion of larger doses. Central nervous system (CNS) depression may occur if large amounts of phthalate acid esters are absorbed. EPA has determined that DEHP is a probable human carcinogen. These determinations were based entirely on liver cancer in rats and mice. DEHP is known to be associated with drilling activities.
- 4. Glycol Compounds (including Ethylene Glycol\* and 2-Methoxyethanol) Glycol compounds are a class of organic compounds belonging to the alcohol family. Exposure to large amounts of ethylene glycol can damage the kidneys, nervous system, lungs, and heart. Exposure to high concentrations of 2-methoxyethanol is associated with testicular damage, impaired nervous system, and anemia. Glycols are known to be common in drilling fluids.
- 5. Manganese\* Manganese is a naturally occurring substance found in many types of rock and soil. Manganese is also known to be a constituent of some specialized drilling fluids. Eating a small amount of manganese from food or water is needed to stay healthy. At high levels, it can cause damage to the nervous system.

- 6. Phenol\* Phenol is both a manufactured chemical and a natural substance. Phenol is used as a disinfectant and is found in a number of consumer products. Skin exposure to high amounts can produce skin burns, liver damage, dark urine, and irregular heart beat. Various phenols are commonly associated with drilling fluids.
- Sodium\* Sodium is an essential nutrient and occurs naturally in most foods.
   Excessive sodium intake is associated with high blood pressure. Various sodium containing compounds are associated with drilling fluids.

\*A hazardous substance, as defined under CERCLA Section 101(14) and designated in Section 302.4 of the National Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 C.F.R. Section 302.4.

#### B. National Priorities List

The Dimock Residential Groundwater Site is not on the CERCLA National Priorities List (NPL).

#### C. State and Local Authorities' Roles

Cabot had been sampling the home wells and providing bottled drinking water and alternate water for non-potable use, through a Consent Order and Agreement (CO&A) with PADEP. The CO&A applies only to a specific list of homes, and does not include other homes, also located within the same geographic area. Some of these additional homes have had limited sampling conducted by Cabot and/or PADEP. PADEP determined that Cabot has complied with the terms of the CO&A, as it applies to the provision of temporary water, and subsequently approved Cabot's request to stop the delivery of alternate water.

#### IV. THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH OR WELFARE OR THE ENVIRONMENT

Section 300.415 of the NCP lists the factors to be considered in determining the appropriateness of a Removal Action. Paragraphs (b)(2)(i), (ii), and (vii) of Section 300.415 directly apply to the conditions found at the Dimock Residential Groundwater Site.

In evaluating the situation, the OSC first considered whether hazardous substances were present in a home well. The levels of those hazardous substances were then considered against primary Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). They were also considered for non-cancer risk to determine if the levels generate a hazard quotient greater than 2. The presence of inorganic and organic chemicals in a number of wells supports the need for this action.

300.415 (b)(2)(i) "Actual or potential exposure to nearby human populations, animals or the food chain from hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants"

The hazardous substances listed above, present in water from home wells at this Site based on sampling data described below, could cause adverse health impacts when chronic exposure through drinking water or other uses of water in the home occurs. There are other contaminants discussed in the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's (ATSDR) Record of Activity (AROA) issued on December 28, 2011, which could also cause adverse health impacts. ATSDR has concluded for the area originally included with the PADEP/Cabot CO&A, which includes the four homes being considered here for alternate water, that a chronic health risk exists for most wells and that the situation supports a "Do Not Use the Water" action including the consideration of alternative home water supplies until further characterization is completed. An EPA Region III toxicologist's opinion is that, of the homes evaluated to date in an on-going effort, that four home wells contain contaminants at levels that present a public health concern. In one home, manganese was detected at 628 ug/L. Exposure to this concentration would yield a Hazard Quotient of approximately 2. In another home, manganese (1360 ug/L) was detected at a level that generates a Hazard Quotient of approximately 4. Note that children reside at this location. In the third home, arsenic was observed at a concentration (37 ug/L) that exceeds its MCL of (10 ug/L) and would pose a long-term cancer risk of 8E-04. Note that children reside at this location. In the fourth home, manganese was detected at 669 ug/L. Exposure to this concentration would yield a Hazard Quotient of approximately 2.3. Available data also indicate that hazardous substances may be present in a number of other homes. Because the available data is not complete and is of uncertain quality, additional sampling is needed to facilitate a further evaluation of any potential health concerns from the drinking water at home wells in the Site area.

EPA is providing water based upon a risk of exposure to hazardous substances above health-based levels. Furthermore, the OSC notes that for those homes where the EPA toxicologist has not identified contaminants that present a public health concern, that the limited data available does identify the existence of hazardous substances. In addition, PADEP's CO&A determined that 18 home wells were impacted by drilling activities; such impact may be evidence of the migration of hazardous substances.

Again, it is noted that this determination is based upon data which was collected by parties other than EPA (Cabot and PADEP). The quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) information has not been verified. However, what is clear is that this data strongly suggests that hazardous substances have been released and are present in some home wells at levels that may present a public health concern. Current data does show arsenic and manganese at higher levels than may be typically found, in post drilling samples. Since arsenic and manganese are naturally occurring substances, EPA's assessment will include comparisons of background concentrations and post drilling concentrations present. EPA routinely acts under CERCLA to protect public health first while it acts to further define contamination. Thus, within this action, EPA will complete an assessment of the water quality of the home wells in the Site area to close information gaps as soon as possible. This sampling will be focused initially on evaluating those homes in the Site area that have been sampled in the past. Beyond that, sampling at homes will be based upon a sampling rationale using information regarding alleged health impacts and

data gaps. In addition, EPA will continue to evaluate the updated data, and may revise its actions to provide water to any of the additional homes, or to cease provision of water, as warranted by the data.

### 300.415 (b)(2)(ii) "Actual or potential contamination of drinking water supplies or sensitive ecosystems"

The discussion of 300.415 (b) (2) (i) above applies to this factor. Both organic and inorganic contaminants have been detected in home wells. Although this action is predominantly based upon inorganic data at the four homes, it should be noted that organic compounds have been detected at other homes as detailed in the ATSDR AROA. Glycol detections included ethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, and 2,2'oxybisethanol (diethylene glycol). Some wells had all three reported glycols present in their wells but no exceedances of risk based screening criteria (note: the analytical detection level used appeared to be higher than screening levels). Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) was detected in five samples and ranged from 0.14 µg/L to 22 ug/L. 2-methoxyethanol concentrations (ranging from 880 ug/L to 1,300 ug/L) were detected in each of six wells.

### 300.415 (b) (2) (vii) "The availability of other appropriate federal or state response mechanisms to respond to the release"

The four homes being considered for alternate water under this action were all dependent upon donated water, either bottled, water buffaloes (temporary storage tanks) or both. It is the OSC's understanding that the last delivery of bulk water from those organizations ceased on January 3, 2012. In any case the reliability of sources for donated water is at best uncertain.

#### V. PROPOSED ACTIONS AND ESTIMATED COSTS

#### A. Proposed Action

#### 1. Proposed Action Description

Throughout the duration of Site activities, all personnel involved with execution of this proposed action will comply with the requirements of CERCLA and with all other applicable Federal and State regulations to the extent practicable considering the exigencies of the situation in accordance with 40 CFR § 300.415(j). Available data indicate that a number of homes in the area have hazardous substances present in the home wells, but only four indicate concentrations identified by the EPA toxicologist at a level of concern. Thus, those four homes will be immediately supplied with water. At the same time, approximately 61 home wells will be sampled by EPA to obtain data of known quality assurance to support future evaluations and response decisions. EPA will continue to evaluate the updated data, and may revise its actions to provide water to any of the additional homes, or to cease provision of water, as warranted by the data. The Removal activities at the Site will include the following:

- 1. Mobilize and demobilize personnel and equipment to conduct the action;
- 2. Delivery of a temporary source of clean water for household use to the four (4) homes with wells that contain contaminants at levels of public health concern. This provision of temporary water will continue until potential exposures are further understood and mitigated as needed.
- 3. The sampling program will include analysis for a broad range of parameters with a special priority being placed on quick turnaround for those parameters which are most frequently observed in the data available to EPA at this time. The Agency will also do some limited sampling for methane and bacteriological constituents. Home well water sampling will be performed by EPA in the Site area using the following assigned priority:
  - The four (4) homes considered for provision of alternate water, to assess the potential exposure to hazardous substances and to determine whether continued temporary provision of clean water for household use is required.
  - ii. The seventeen (17) remaining homes located on properties included in the PADEP/Cabot CO&A<sup>2</sup>, which were identified as being impacted by drilling activities.
  - iii. Approximately thirty (30) additional homes in the immediate area that have been sampled in the past.
  - Additional homes in the Site area where one or more of the factors below supports sampling.
    - Direct observation or other evidence (home well surveys) of adverse health effects potentially attributable to contaminated groundwater use.
    - Where data gaps in groundwater measurement or sampling need to be filled to gain an adequate understanding of Site conditions.

Approximately ten (10) homes are currently identified from well surveys, but more could be added based upon data review.

- 4. Maintain necessary documentation of Site activities.
- 5. Develop and implement appropriate health and safety protocols for the removal activity.

It had originally been reported that 19 homes were served by the 18 wells included within the scope of the CO&A but the door-to-door home well survey conducted to date by EPA has identified that there are currently 21 homes served by 20 wells on those same properties.

#### 2. Contribution to Remedial Performance

A remedial action is not anticipated and therefore this removal action is not inconsistent with any proposed remedial action.

#### 3. Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements ("ARARs")

Actions will be conducted in compliance with Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Regulations (ARARs) to the extent practicable considering the exigencies of the situation, in accordance with 40 CFR 300.415(j).

#### **B.** Estimated Costs

Extramural Costs	Total	
Regional Allowance Costs: (ERRs Contractors and Subcontractors)	\$ 50,000	
Other Extramural Costs Not Funded From the Regional Allowance: START Contractor	\$ 25,000	
Subtotal, Extramural	\$ 75,000	
Extramural Costs Contingency	\$ 25,000	
Total Removal Action Project Ceiling	\$100,000	

### VI. EXPECTED CHANGE IN SITUATION SHOULD ACTION BE DELAYED OR NOT TAKEN

If no action is taken, the residents may utilize well water which poses a potential public health concern.

#### VII. OUTSTANDING POLICY ISSUES

Because this response action could be considered nationally significant or precedent setting, it requires the prior concurrence of the Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (AA-OSWER). Furthermore, because the action appears to be nationally significant and/or precedent-setting, the Region will continue to coordinate closely with Headquarters. EPA also will maintain coordination and communications with PADEP. In taking this action, EPA is aware of and has considered the potential applicability of the natural gas exclusion under CERCLA, the Bentsen Amendment under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and the exclusions to the definition of 'underground injection' under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). EPA has concluded that this action is appropriate under CERCLA at this time.

#### VIII. ENFORCEMENT

The total EPA costs for this removal action based upon full-cost accounting practices that will be eligible for cost recovery are estimated below as follows:<sup>3</sup>

Direct Extramural Costs	\$100,000
Direct Intramural Costs	\$ 25,000
Total Direct Costs	\$125,000
Indirect Cost (67.13% x Direct Costs)	\$ 83,912
Total Costs (Direct and Indirect)	\$208,912

#### IX. RECOMMENDATION

This Action Memorandum represents the selected Removal Action for the Dimock Residential Groundwater Site in Dimock Township, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, developed in accordance with CERCLA, as amended, and is consistent with the NCP. This decision is based on the administrative record for the Site. The administrative record consists of the following documents

- 1. 1/13/12 "Dimock Home Well Data" memo from EPA Toxicologist Dawn loven.
- 2. ATSDR AROA Issued 12/28/11.
- 3. Summary of Portions of data received by EPA and reviewed by the OSC.
- 4. PADEP Consent Order and Agreement, dated December 15, 2010.
- 5. EPA Data Review Memo, January 13, 2012.
- 6. EPA 104e request to Cabot, January 6, 2012

Conditions at the Site meet the Removal Action requirements of Section 300.415(b) of the NCP and I recommend your approval of the proposed removal action and exemption from the statutory limits. The total project ceiling, if approved, will be \$100,000. Of this, as much as, \$50,000 comes from the Regional removal allowance. Please indicate your approval or disapproval below.

¹ Direct Costs include direct extramural costs and direct intramural costs. Indirect costs are calculated based on an estimated indirect cost rate expressed as a percentage of site-specific direct costs, consistent with the full cost accounting methodology effective October 2, 2000. These estimates do not include pre-judgment interest, do not take into account other enforcement costs, including Department of Justice costs, and may be adjusted during the course of a removal action. The estimates are for illustrative purposes only and their use in not intended to create any rights for responsible parties. Neither the lack of a total cost estimate nor deviation of actual total costs from this estimate will affect the United States' right to cost recovery.

#### Action by the Approving Official:

I have reviewed the above-stated facts and, based upon those facts and the information compiled in the documents described above, I hereby approve/disapprove the selected removal action.

DATE

APPROVED: Denne Pour

Dennis P. Carney, Associate Division Director

Hazardous Site Cleanup Division

EPA Region 3

DISAPPROVED: \_

Dennis P. Carney, Associate Division Director

Hazardous Site Cleanup Division

EPA Region 3

### **EXHIBIT B**

### **CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY**